Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of interfacing a messaging system to a database management system having a table for storing data and also having at least one database command to access the table, the messaging system having at least one messaging system command to access a message queue, comprising:

receiving a binding-command specifying a virtual table and at least one messaging system configuration parameter;

binding the virtual table to a message queue, the virtual table comprising a message-data column and at least one message-attribute column, the at least one message-attribute column comprising a correlation identifier column, wherein said binding comprises associating at least one access routine with the virtual table, the at least one access routine comprises the at least one messaging system command of the messaging system ~~wherein said binding the virtual table to the message queue specifies a type of read access from the message queue based on the binding-command, the type of read access being a non-destructive read based on the binding-command being a first binding-command, and the type of read access being a destructive read based on the binding-command being a second binding-command different from said first binding-command~~;

receiving at least one database command to select data from the virtual table having a particular correlation identifier; and

accessing the message queue in accordance with the at least one database command to select data from ~~specifying~~ the virtual table, the message queue having ~~a message~~ messages comprising message-data and at least one message-attribute data, the at least one message-attribute data comprising a message correlation identifier, the message-data being separate from the message correlation identifier, wherein said accessing invokes the at least one access routine to access the message queue, wherein the at least one access routine builds a messaging system read request of the at least one messaging system command, the messaging system read request specifying the particular correlation identifier to read a message from the message queue, the messaging system read request being executed wherein at least one message of the message queue having a message correlation identifier matching the particular correlation identifier is read, wherein the message-data of the at least one message that is read is provided in ~~associated with~~ the message-data column of the virtual table, and the particular correlation identifier is provided in the correlation identifier column of the virtual table ~~and the at least one message-attribute data is associated with the at least one message-attribute column~~.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1

~~wherein said binding comprises associating at least one access routine with the virtual table, the at least one access routine comprising at least one messaging system command of the messaging system,~~

~~wherein said accessing comprises invoking the at least one access routine to access the message queue using the at least one messaging system command,~~

wherein the at least one database command does not specify the at least one access routine.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising: ~~wherein the~~

receiving at least one other database command that is a SQL INSERT statement to insert [[the]] a particular message-data into the message-data column and to insert the at least one particular message-attribute data into the at least one message-attribute column of the virtual table, ~~wherein said~~

accessing the message queue based on the SQL INSERT statement, ~~receives~~ a message being sent to the message queue, the message comprising the particular message-data from the message-data column of the virtual table as the message-data of the message, and the message also comprising the at least one message-attribute data from the at least one message-attribute column of the virtual table as the message-attribute data of the message~~, and writes the message-data and the at least one message-attribute data to the message queue~~.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one database command to select data is a SQL SELECT statement ~~to read the message-data and the at least one message-attribute data from the message queue and return the message-data in the message-data column and the at least one message-attribute data in the at least one message-attribute column of the virtual table~~.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 5 wherein said read is a non-destructive read.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one message-attribute column comprises a topic column, and the at least one message-attribute data comprises a topic, wherein the topic column is associated with the topic.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The method of claim 5 wherein in response to the SQL SELECT statement comprising a constraint referencing the at least one message-attribute column, said accessing applies the constraint referencing the at least one message-attribute when reading the message-data from the message queue.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of claim 4 [[1]] ~~further comprising:~~

wherein said binding also binds the virtual table to a distribution list specifying a plurality of message queues;

~~wherein the at least one database command inserts the message-data into the message-data column of the virtual table,~~

wherein said accessing the message queue based on the SQL INSERT statement sends the message ~~message-data of the message-data column~~ to the plurality of message queues of the distribution list.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An apparatus for interfacing a messaging system to a database management system having at least one database command to access a table, and the messaging system having at least one messaging system command to access a message queue, comprising:

a computer having a data storage device connected thereto, wherein the data storage device has a table for storing data; and

one or more computer programs, to be executed by the computer, for

receiving a binding-command specifying a virtual table and at least one messaging system configuration parameter;

binding the virtual table with a message queue, the virtual table comprising a message-data column and at least one message-attribute column, the at least one message-attribute column comprising a correlation identifier column, wherein said binding comprises associating at least one access routine with the virtual table, the at least one access routine comprises the at least one messaging system command of the messaging system ~~wherein said binding the virtual table to the message queue specifies a type of read access from the message queue based on the binding-command, the type of read access being a non-destructive read based on the binding-command being a first binding-command, and the type of read access being a destructive read based on the binding-command being a second binding-command different from said first binding-command~~;

receiving at least one database command to select data from the virtual table having a particular correlation identifier; and

accessing the message queue in accordance with the at least one database command to select data from ~~specifying~~ the virtual table, the message queue having ~~a message~~ messages comprising message-data and at least one message-attribute data, the at least one message-attribute data comprising a message correlation identifier, the message-data being separate from the message correlation identifier, wherein said accessing invokes the at least one access routine to access the message queue, wherein the at least one access routine builds a messaging system read request of the at least one messaging system command, the messaging system read request specifying the particular correlation identifier to read a message from the message queue, the messaging system read request being executed wherein at least one message of the message queue having a message correlation identifier matching the particular correlation identifier is read, wherein the message-data of the at least one message that is read is provided in ~~associated with~~ the message-data column of the virtual table, and the particular correlation identifier is provided in the correlation identifier column of the virtual table ~~and the at least one message-attribute data is associated with the at least one message-attribute column~~.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 10

~~wherein said binding comprises associating at least one access routine with the virtual table, the at least one access routine comprising the at least one messaging system command of the messaging system,~~

~~wherein said accessing comprises invoking the at least one access routine to access the message queue,~~

wherein the at least one database command does not specify the at least one access routine.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the at least one database command is a SQL SELECT statement ~~to read the message-data and the at least one message-attribute data from the message queue and return the message-data in the message-data column and the at least one message-attribute data in the at least one message-attribute column of the virtual table~~.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein said binding also binds the virtual table to a distribution list specifying a plurality of message queues;

said one or more computer programs also:

receiving another database command to insert a particular ~~wherein the at least one database command inserts the~~ message-data into the message-data column of the virtual table, and

accessing the message queue to send a message comprising ~~wherein said accessing sends~~ the particular message-data ~~of the message-data column~~ to the plurality of message queues of the distribution list.

Claim 14 (currently amended): An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable storage medium embodying computer usable program code for performing a method of interfacing a messaging system to a database management system having at least one database command to access a table, the messaging system having at least one messaging system command to access a message queue, the method comprising:

receiving a binding-command specifying a virtual table and at least one messaging system configuration parameter;

binding the virtual table to a message queue, the virtual table comprising a message-data column and at least one message-attribute column, the at least one message-attribute column comprising a correlation identifier column, wherein said binding comprises associating at least one access routine with the virtual table, the at least one access routine comprises the at least one messaging system command of the messaging system ~~wherein said binding the virtual table to the message queue specifies a type of read access from the message queue based on the binding-command, the type of read access being a non-destructive read based on the binding-command being a first binding-command, and the type of read access being a destructive read based on the binding-command being a second binding-command different from said first binding-command~~;

receiving at least one database command to select data from the virtual table having a particular correlation identifier; and accessing the message queue in accordance with the at least one database command to select data from ~~specifying~~ the virtual table, the message queue having ~~a message~~ messages comprising message-data and at least one message-attribute data, the at least one message-attribute data comprising a message correlation identifier, the message-data being separate from the message correlation identifier, wherein said accessing invokes the at least one access routine to access the message queue, wherein the at least one access routine builds a messaging system read request of the at least one messaging system command, the messaging system read request specifying the particular correlation identifier to read a message from the message queue, the messaging system read request being executed wherein at least one message of the message queue having a message correlation identifier matching the particular correlation identifier is read, wherein the message-data of the at least one message that is read is provided in ~~associated with~~ the message-data column of the virtual table, and the particular correlation identifier is provided in the correlation identifier column of the virtual table ~~and the at least one message-attribute data is associated with the at least one message-attribute column~~.

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): The article of manufacture of claim 14

~~wherein said binding comprises associating at least one access routine with the virtual table, the at least one access routine comprising the at least one messaging system command of the messaging system;~~

~~wherein said accessing comprises invoking the at least one access routine to access the message-data of the message queue,~~

wherein the at least one database command does not specify the at least one access routine.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The article of manufacture of claim 16 wherein the at least one database command is a SQL SELECT statement ~~to read the message-data and the at least~~

~~one message-attribute data from the message queue and return the message-data in the message-data column and the at least one message-attribute data in the at least one message-attribute column of the virtual table~~.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The article of manufacture of claim 14 wherein the at least one message-attribute column comprises a topic column, and the at least one message-attribute data comprises a topic, wherein the topic column is associated with the topic.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein in response to the SQL SELECT statement comprising a constraint referencing the at least one message-attribute column, said accessing applies the constraint referencing the at least one message-attribute column when reading the message-data from the message queue.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The article of manufacture of claim 14

wherein said binding also binds the virtual table to a distribution list specifying a plurality of message queues;

further comprising:

~~wherein the~~ receiving at least one other database command to insert a particular ~~inserts the~~ message-data into the message-data column of the virtual table, and ~~wherein said accessing sends~~ sending a message comprising the particular message-data as the message-data of the message to the plurality of message queues of the distribution list.

Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

providing at least one access method purpose function;

registering the at least one access method purpose function with a database engine;

associating the at least one access method purpose function with at least one access method name of a virtual table interface of the database engine;

wherein said binding comprises creating the virtual table such that the virtual table is associated with the at least one access method purpose function~~; and~~

~~wherein said accessing the message queue in accordance with the at least one database command specifying the virtual table, comprises invoking the at least one access method purpose function that is associated with the virtual table, wherein the at least one access method purpose function accesses the message queue~~.

Claim 22 (original): The method of claim 21 wherein said binding passes the at least one messaging system configuration parameter to the at least one access method purpose function.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 21 wherein said binding passes the type of read access as a parameter to the at least one access method purpose function.

Claim 24 (new): The method of claim 1 wherein said binding the virtual table to the message queue specifies a type of read access from the message queue based on the binding-command, the type of read access being a non-destructive read based on the binding-command being a first binding-command, and the type of read access being a destructive read based on the binding-command being a second binding-command different from said first binding-command.